for its approval. The implementation of the Turn Around Plan is expected to make the NTC mills viable. NTC is expected to be able to clear the dues of Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board on implementation of the revised Turn Around Strategy.

Under-Utilisation of Tourism Market

2005. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's tourism market is under utilised at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some effective measures in this regard to give big push in tourism sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM) (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the statistical data made available by the World Tourism Organisation, for the year 1994, India's share of World Tourism is only 0.36%

(c) and (d) The measures taken to boost tourism include(a) Augmentation of Infrastructural Facilities in major tourist centres in a co-ordinated manner by pooling the resources of the Centre, State and Private sectors; (b) Provision of basic amenities and beautification around important tourist Heritage Centres; (c) Development of Tourism on a regional circuit basis; (d) Promote special thematic tourism, viz., Adventure Tourism, Sports Tourism, Budhist Circuit Tourism, Yoga and Ayurvedic Tourism, etc; (e) Promoting Wild Life Sancturies in India; (f) Promotion of Pilgrim Tourism as India has a number of pilgrim centres connected with various religions, such as, 'Hinduism, Islam, Catholic, Buddhists, Sikhism and Jainism.' These are frequented by a large number of pilgrims both from India and abroad; (g) Providing a package of incentives for private investment in tourism related activities; (h) Augmentation of transport facilities including special trains, such as, Palace on Wheels, Shatabdis, etc; (i) Developing adequate man-power resources in all sectors connected with tourism; (j) Implementing aggressive and effective marketing and promotional strategies in the major tourism generating countries.

Income Tax deduction at source

2006. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the impact of subscription to various saving schemes, including Mutual Funds and those of UTI after the proposal regarding deduction of income tax at the rate of 20 per cent at source was implemented;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the deduction of income tax at source is proving a discouraging factor in the formation of savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The provisions under Section 194-K regarding deduction of income tax at source in respect of income from Units of Mutual Funds and of UTI have been introduced with effect from 1.7.1995. It is too early to assess the impact of these provisions.

(c) Incentives/concessions or disincentives basically alter the composition of savings rather than the volume or overall level. For promoting savings it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on savings behaviour. These include rate of growth in the economy, level of fiscal deficit, tax policies, inflation, efficiency of banking system and the capital markets and confidence in the economy. The various economic reform measures undertaken so far are expected to have a

favourable impact on the aggregate savings.

Survey of inflation forecast for 1995-96

2007. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has seen a news-item in the 'Indian Express' dated the 26th July, 1995 captioned "Decline in inflation rate may be short-lived" and according to survey of inflation forecast for 1995-96 reported by 'Business Today', inflation rate could turn out to be 1.5-3.4 per cent higher than the Government's implicit Projection of 8.3 per cent;

(b) whether it is a fact that the index for foodgrains articles have slightly declined but prices of essential commodities are increasing without any check; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to bring down the prices of items of mass consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the forecast of inflation rate above 8.3 per cent is author's own estimate.

(b) and (c) The Wholesale Price Index both for foodgrains and essential commodities as on July 29 in the current financial year recorded a lower rise compared to the rise on the corresponding date last year. Food articles registered a rise of 5.2 per cent as against the rise of 15.3 per cent last year. Wholesale price of essential commodities rose by 5.5 per cent during current financial year in comparison to the rise of 8.4 per cent last year.

Government remains vigilant and has taken a number of steps to moderate the prices of essential commodities. These are:—

(i) Continuation of FCI's open market sale of rice and wheat through current fiscal year to check market price.

(ii) allowing import of edible oils (except coconut oil) under OGL at a reduced duty of 30 per cent.

(iii) importing 1.5 lakh tonnes of palmolein at concessional duty of 20 per cent for supply through PDS.

(iv) continuing OGL import policy for sugar and allowing imports for augmenting PDS stocks.

(v) increase by 5 per cent the levy sugar allocation for PDS.

(vi) import of pulses under OGL with duty reduced to 5 per cent.

(vii) stock limits for imported essential products waived.

(viii) adjustment in trade and tariff policies in the current financial year to ensure stability in the prices of industrial products. Substantial reduction in excise duties on a number of items is expected to accelerate industrial growth.

(ix) aiming for reduced deficit to 5.6 per cent of GDP as against 6.7 per cent (Revised Estimates) in the last financial year.

(x) moderating the growth of money supply.

प्रचार माध्यमों को चुस्त बनाने हेतु विदेशी प्रस्ताव

2008. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को प्रचार माध्यमों के संचालन को चुस्त बनाने हेतु विदेशी प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे प्रस्ताव किस प्रकार के हैं;

(ग) इनके संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है और क्या कुछ प्रस्तावों को पारस्परिक आधार पर अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है; और

(घ) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान दिल्ली दूरदर्शन और आकाशवाणी के लिए हमारी विदेश